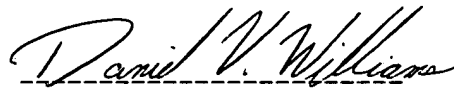


REMARKS

Claims 8-16 are pending. The foregoing amendments are merely editorial in nature and do not introduce new matter into the claims. Accordingly, entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested, and an early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees due to maintain the pendency of this application (except the Issue Fee) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: June 13, 2001

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

8. (Twice Amended) A feed screw device comprising:

a screw shaft;

a nut member threadably engaging an outer periphery of the screw shaft;

a lubricant supply device fixed to said nut member, said lubricant supply device coming in contact with the outer peripheral surface of said screw shaft and having a predetermined elasticity; and

~~means for~~ a deforming member which deforms at least the outer periphery of said lubricant supply device in the circumferential direction,

in which said nut member is provided with a cap-shaped retaining ring which has a recessing portion for accommodating said lubricant supply device.

11. (Twice Amended) A feed screw device comprising:

a screw shaft;

a nut member threadably engaging an outer periphery of the screw shaft;

a lubricant supply device fixed to said nut member, said lubricant supply device coming in contact with the outer peripheral surface of said screw shaft and having a predetermined elasticity; and

~~means for~~ a deforming member which deforms at least the outer periphery of said lubricant supply device in the circumferential direction,

in which said lubricant supply device is provided with a plurality of lip parts projected along the circumferential direction toward the inner peripheral surface of said lubricant supply device and come in sliding contact with the outer peripheral surface of said screw shaft.